

Page 2 of 5
App. No. 09/863,120

Docket No. 72757
[00P287PS-US01]

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Written Statement regarding Substance of 6/7/05 Interview per 37 CFR 1.133(b)

Applicants appreciate very much the opportunity to discuss the status of this application with Examiner Lu in the telephone interview that occurred on June 7, 2005. Those participating in the interview were Examiner Lu and the undersigned attorney of record. In accordance with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.133(b), and the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP) § 713.04, Applicants provide the following written statement of the reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action.

No exhibits were shown or discussed. The claims discussed were independent claims 1, 6 and 9. No prior art was discussed. However, the rejection of claims 1, 6 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, was discussed.

The principal arguments for patentability that were discussed were as follows. Applicants asserted that page 46, line 24 to page 47, line 10 of the specification supports a limitation that was variously added to claims 1, 6 and 9 in Applicants' Amendment dated January 13, 2005 (i.e., either "means for imparting vibrations to each of said line drawing image pieces to produce animation of the line drawing image" or "imparting vibrations to each of said line drawing image pieces to produce animation of the line drawing image"). The above-cited portion of Applicants' specification specifically discloses:

At step S74, the virtual road object line drawing image 4201a (a virtual line drawing image having obstacle object line drawing images inserted therein in a case wherein obstacle object line drawing images are present) is drawn such that it

Page 3 of 5
App. No. 09/863,120

Docket No. 72757
[00P287PS-US01]

moves a predetermined distance in the direction of the arrow E at a predetermined time interval, e.g., each time the screen is updated (every 1/30 sec. in the case of an NTSC system). At the same time, components that form the character object line drawing image 4011a such as the arms, legs, etc. of a modified rabbit in this case are drawn such that they are alternately moved back and forth to provide an image in which the character object line drawing image 4011a seems as if it is in a relative movement (running) in the direction of the arrow F on the screen. (emphasis added).

Applicants submitted, and the Examiner agreed, that the above-cited passage clearly supports the limitations variously added to claims 1, 6 and 9 in the Amendment dated January 13, 2005. Accordingly, the Examiner indicated that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, would be withdrawn.

Claim Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

The Examiner rejected claims 1-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by Salesin et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,847,712). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

In rejecting claims 1, 6 and 9, the Examiner asserted that the "limitation of 'to produce animation of the line drawing image' ... is disclosed in Salesin as well." Applicants respectfully disagree.

Specifically, and as discussed in Applicants' previous Amendments, Salesin et al. only describes still images and does not describe animation of the image. Indeed, and with reference to the "Response to Arguments" section of the Office Action mailed October 20, 2004, the Examiner agrees, acknowledging that "Salesin only describes still images, and does not describe animation of the image."

For at least the reasons presented above, Applicants submit that Salesin et al. fails to anticipate claims 1, 6 and 9 and, consequently, request withdrawal of the rejection of

Page 4 of 5
App. No. 09/863,120

Docket No. 72757
[00P287PS-US01]

claims 1-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

No Fees Believed to be Due

No fees are believed to be due to file this response.

Page 5 of 5
App. No. 09/863,120

Docket No. 72757
[00P287P9-US01]

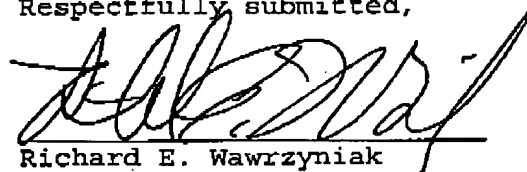
CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that the above remarks place the pending claims in a condition for allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. However, should there remain any outstanding issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Richard E. Wawrzyniak at (858) 552-1311 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

Date:

6/15/05

Respectfully submitted,



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